

REMARKS**Election/Restrictions**

The Examiner has required restriction between:

- I. Claims 1-152 and 156-180 drawn to a method and kit for detecting a chromosomal abnormality, classified in Class 435, subclass 6.
- II. Claims 153-154, drawn to a composition comprising fetal DNA and maternal DNA, classified in Class 536, subclass 23.1 and 24.3.
- III. Claim 155, drawn to a method of analyzing a composition comprising fetal DNA and maternal DNA, classified in Class 435, subclass 6.

Applicant elects Group I, claims 1-152 and 156-180.

Applicant expressly reserves Applicant's right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority from this application.

Amendments in the Specification

The specification has been amended to clarify that the above-identified application is a continuation-in-part of PCT/US03/27308, rather than a continuation, as initially indicated due to inadvertent error. No new matter has been added.

If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

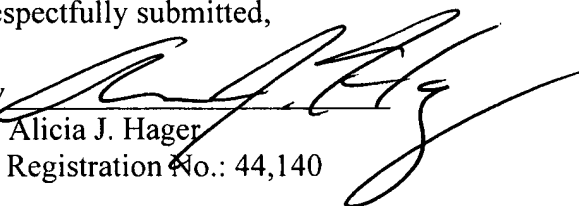
In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension is required, applicant petitions for any required extension of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document

to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 543312000420. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: December 1, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By


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